

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1, where a typographical error was corrected by replacing numeral 135 with numeral 125.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-22 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer. As a result, claims 1 and 3-22 are pending for examination. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action allowed claims 16-22. The Office Action objected to claims 2, 3, 5-7, 13 and 14 as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Objections to the Drawings

The Office Action objected to Figure 1, on the basis that numeral 135 should be replaced with 125. Applicant has amended Figure 1 accordingly. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Specification

The Office Action objected to page 7, line 14 of the specification, asserting that numeral 135 should be replaced with numeral 110. Applicant has amended the specification accordingly. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4, 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,243,297 (Nagatomo).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2. The Office Action stated that claim 2 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form, therefore amended claim 1 is in allowable condition.

Claim 5 has been amended to ensure proper antecedent basis.

Claims 3-15 depend from claim 1, and are patentable for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Replacement Figure